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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Docket No. L.P. 1825

Applicants: Erich ARMBRUSTER et al.

Appl. No. : 09/868,941 (National Stage based on PCT/EP00/00240,
filed on 01/13/2000)

Filed : July 16, 2001

Title : PROCESS FOR PREPARING 1-(6-METHYLPYRIDIN-3-YL)-2-
[4-(METHYLSULPHONYL)PHENYL]ETHANONE

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

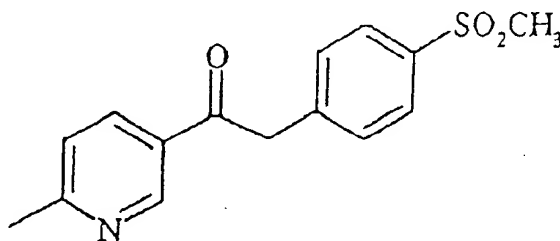
In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121, please cancel claims 1 to 20 and insert new claims 21 to 49. The changes made are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Please cancel claims 1 to 20.

Please add new claims 21 to 49 as follows:

21. 1-(6-Methylpyridin-3-yl)-2-
[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethanone of formula:



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22. A process for preparing 1-(6-methylpyridin-3-yl)-2-
[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethanone of formula: